Preamble
In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful, We, Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait, desiring to use the means of democratic rule for our dear Country; and, having faith in the role of this Country in furthering Arab nationalism and the promotion of world peace and human civilization; and, striving towards a better future in which the Country enjoys greater prosperity and higher international standing, and in which also the citizens are provided with more political freedom, equality, and social justice, a future which upholds the traditions inherent in the Arab nation by enhancing the dignity of the individual, safeguarding public interest, and applying consultative rule yet maintaining the unity and stability of the Country; and, I having considered Law Number I of 1962 concerning the system of Government during the period of transition; and, upon the resolution of the Constituent Assembly; do hereby approve this Constitution and promulgate it.

Part I
The State and System of Government

Article 1
Kuwait is an Arab State, independent and fully sovereign. Neither its sovereignty nor any part of its territory may be relinquished. The people of Kuwait are a part of the Arab Nation.

Article 2
The religion of the State is Islam, and the Islamic Shari'a shall be a main source of legislation.

Article 3
The official language of the State is Arabic.

Article 4
(1) Kuwait is a hereditary Emirate, the succession to which shall be in the descendants of the late Mubarak al-Sabah.
(2) The Heir Apparent shall be designated within one year, at the latest, from the date of accession of the Emir.
(3) His designation shall be effected by an Emiri Order upon the nomination of the Emir and the approval of the National Assembly, which shall be signified by a majority vote of its members in a special sitting.

(4) In case no designation is achieved in accordance with the foregoing procedure, the Emir shall nominate at least three of the descendants of the late Mubarak al-Sabah of whom the National Assembly shall pledge allegiance to one as Heir Apparent.

(5) The Heir Apparent shall have attained his majority, be of sound mind, and a legitimate son of Muslim parents.

(6) A special law promulgated within one year from the date of coming into force of this Constitution shall lay down the other rules of succession in the Emirate. The said law shall be of a constitutional nature and therefore shall be capable of amendment only by the procedure prescribed for amendment of the Constitution.

Article 5
The flag, emblem, badges, decorations, and the National Anthem of the State shall be specified by law.

Article 6
The System of Government in Kuwait shall be democratic, under which sovereignty resides in the people, the source of all powers. Sovereignty shall be exercised in the manner specified in this Constitution.

Part II
Fundamental Constituents of Kuwaiti Society

Article 7
Justice, Liberty, and Equality are the pillars of society; co-operation and mutual help are the firmest bonds between citizens.

Article 8
The State safeguards the pillars of Society and ensures security, tranquility, and equal opportunities for citizens.
Article 9
The family is the corner stone of Society. It is founded on religion, morality, and patriotism. Law shall preserve the integrity of the family, strengthen its ties, and protect under its support motherhood and childhood.

Article 10
The State cares for the young and protects them from exploitation and from moral, physical, and spiritual neglect.

Article 11
The State ensures aid for citizens in old age, sickness, or inability to work. It also provides them with services of social security, social aid, and medical care.

Article 12
The State safeguards the heritage of Islam and of the Arabs and contributes to the furtherance of human civilization.

Article 13
Education is a fundamental requisite for the progress of society assured and promoted by the State.

Article 14
The State shall promote science, letters, and the arts and encourage scientific research therein.

Article 15
The State cares for public health and for means of prevention and treatment of diseases and epidemics.

Article 16
Property, capital, and work are fundamental constituents of the social structure of the State and of the national wealth. All of them are individual rights with a social function as regulated by law.

Article 17
Public property is inviolable and its protection is the duty of every citizen.

Article 18
(1) Private property is inviolable. No one shall be prevented from disposing of
his property except within the limits of the law. No property shall be expropriated except for the public benefit under the circumstances and in the manner specified by law, and on condition that just compensation is paid.

(2) Inheritance is a right governed by the Islamic Shari‘a.

Article 19
General confiscation of the property of any person shall be prohibited. Confiscation of particular property as a penalty may not be inflicted except by court judgment in the circumstances specified by law.

Article 20
The national economy shall be based on social justice. It is founded on fair co-operation between public and private activities. Its aim shall be economic development, increase of productivity, improvement of the standard of living, and achievement of prosperity for citizens, all within the limits of the law.

Article 21
Natural resources and all revenues there from are the property of the State. It shall ensure their preservation and proper exploitation, due regard being given to the requirements of State security and the national economy.

Article 22
Relations between employers and employees and between landlords and tenants shall be regulated by law on economic principles, due regard being given to the rules of social justice.

Article 23
The State shall encourage both co-operative activities and savings, and supervise the system of credit.

Article 24
Social justice shall be the basis of taxes and public imposts.

Article 25
The State shall ensure the solidarity of society in shouldering burdens resulting from public disasters and calamities, and provide compensation for war damages or injuries received by any person as a result of the discharge of his military duties.
Article 26
(1) Public office is a national service entrusted to those who hold it. Public officials, in the exercise of their duties, shall aim at the public interest.
(2) Aliens may not hold public offices except in the cases specified by law.

Part III
Public Rights and Duties
Article 27
Kuwaiti nationality is defined by law. No deprivation or withdrawal of nationality may be effected except within the limits prescribed by law.

Article 28
No Kuwaiti may be deported from Kuwait or prevented from returning thereto.

Article 29
All people are equal in human dignity and in public rights and duties before the law, without distinction to race, origin, language, or religion.

Article 30
Personal liberty is guaranteed.

Article 31
No person shall be arrested, detained, searched, or compelled to reside in a specified place, nor shall the residence of any person or his liberty to choose his place of residence or his liberty of movement be restricted, except in accordance with the provisions of the law.
No person shall be subjected to torture or to degrading treatment.

Article 32
No crime and no penalty may be established except by virtue of law, and no penalty may be imposed except for offences committed after the relevant law has come into force.

Article 33
Penalty is personal.
Article 34
An accused person is presumed innocent until proved guilty in a legal trial at which the necessary guarantees for the exercise of the right of defense are secured.
The infliction of physical or moral injury on an accused person is prohibited.

Article 35
Freedom of belief is absolute. The State protects the freedom of practicing religion in accordance with established customs, provided that it does not conflict with public policy or morals.

Article 36
Freedom of opinion and of scientific research is guaranteed. Every person has the right to express and propagate his opinion verbally, in writing, or otherwise, in accordance with the conditions and procedures specified by law.

Article 37
Freedom of the press, printing, and publishing is guaranteed in accordance with the conditions and manner specified by law.

Article 38
Places of residence shall be inviolable. They may not be entered without the permission of their occupants except in the circumstances and manner specified by law.

Article 39
Freedom of communication by post, telegraph, and telephone and the secrecy thereof is guaranteed; accordingly, censorship of communications and disclosure of their contents are not permitted except in the circumstances and manner specified by law.

Article 40
(1) Education is a right for Kuwaitis, guaranteed by the State in accordance with law and within the limits of public policy and morals. Education in its preliminary stages is compulsory and free in accordance with the law.

(2) The law lays down the necessary plan to eliminate illiteracy.
(3) The State devotes particular care to the physical, moral, and mental
development of the youth.

Article 41
(1) Every Kuwaiti has the right to work and to choose the type of his work.
(2) Work is a duty of every citizen necessitated by personal dignity and public
good. The State shall endeavor to make it available to citizens and to make its
terms equitable.

Article 42
There is no forced labor except in the cases specified by law for national
emergency and with just remuneration.

Article 43
Freedom to form associations and unions on a national basis and by peaceful
means is guaranteed in accordance with the conditions and manner specified by
law. No one may be compelled to join any association or union.

Article 44
(1) Individuals have the right of private assembly without permission or prior
notification, and the police may not attend such private meetings.
(2) Public meetings, demonstrations, and gatherings are permitted in accordance
with the conditions and manner specified by law, provided that their purpose
and means are peaceful and not contrary to morals.

Article 45
Every individual has the right to address the public authorities in writing over
his signature. Only duly constituted organizations and bodies corporate have
the right to address the authorities collectively.

Article 46
Extradition of political refugees is prohibited.

Article 47
National defense is a sacred duty, and military service is an honor for citizens,
which shall be regulated by law.

Article 48
Payment of taxes and public imposts is a duty in accordance with the law,
which regulates exemption of small incomes from taxes in such a way as to maintain the minimum standard of living.

**Article 49**

Observance of public order and respect for public morals are a duty incumbent upon all inhabitants of Kuwait.

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**Part IV**

**Powers**

**Chapter I**

**General Provisions**

**Article 50**

The system of Government is based on the principle of separation of powers functioning in co-operation with each other in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. None of these powers may relinquish all or part of its competence specified in this Constitution.

**Article 51**

The legislative power is vested in the Emir and the National Assembly in accordance with the Constitution.

**Article 52**

The executive power is vested in the Emir, the Cabinet, and the Ministers, in the manner specified by the Constitution.

**Article 53**

The judicial power is vested in the Courts, which exercise it in the name of the Emir within the limits of the Constitution.

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**Chapter II**

**The Head of State**

**Article 54**

The Emir is the Head of the State. His person is immune and inviolable.

**Article 55**

The Emir exercises his powers through his Ministers.
Article 56
(1) The Emir, after the traditional consultations, appoints the Prime Minister and relieves him of office. The Emir also appoints Ministers and relieves them of office upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister.
(2) Ministers are appointed from amongst the members of the National Assembly and from others.
(3) The number of Ministers in all shall not exceed one-third of the number of the members of the National Assembly.

Article 57
The Cabinet is re-constituted in the manner specified in the preceding Article at the beginning of every legislative term of the National Assembly.

Article 58
The Prime Minister and the Ministers are collectively responsible to the Emir for the general policy of the State. Every Minister also is individually responsible to the Emir for the affairs of his ministry.

Article 59
The Law referred to in Article 4 specifies the conditions under which the Emir exercises his constitutional powers.

Article 60
Before assuming his powers, the Emir takes the following oath at a special sitting of the National Assembly:
"I swear by Almighty God to respect the Constitution and the laws of the State, to defend the liberties, interests, and properties of the people, and to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of the Country."

Article 61
In the event of his absence outside the Country and the inability of the Heir Apparent to act as Deputy for him, the Emir shall appoint, by an Emiri Order, a Deputy who shall exercise his powers during his absence. The said Emiri Order may include a specified arrangement for the exercise of the said powers on behalf of the Emir, or a limitation of their scope.
Article 62
The Deputy Emir has to satisfy the qualifications laid down in Article 82. If he is a Minister or a member of the National Assembly, he may not take part in the ministerial functions or in the work of the Assembly during the period he is acting as Deputy for the Emir.

Article 63
(1) Before assuming his powers the Deputy Emir, at a special sitting of the National Assembly, takes the oath mentioned in Article 60 with the following phrase added thereto:
"and be loyal to the Emir."
(2) In case the National Assembly is not in session, the Oath shall be taken before the Emir.

Article 64
The provisions of Article 131 apply to the Deputy Emir.

Article 65
(1) The Emir has the right to initiate, sanction, and promulgate laws. Promulgation of laws takes place within thirty days from the date of their submission by the National Assembly to the Emir. This period is reduced to seven days in case of urgency. Such urgency is decided upon by a majority vote of the members constituting the National Assembly.
(2) Official holidays are not counted in computing the promulgation.
(3) If the period of promulgation expires without the Head of State demanding reconsideration, the bill is considered as having been sanctioned and is promulgated.

Article 66
Reference of a bill for reconsideration is by a decree stating the grounds therefore. If the National Assembly confirms the bill by a two-thirds majority vote of its members, the Emir sanctions and promulgates the bill within thirty days from its submission to him. If the bill does not receive the said majority, it may not be reconsidered during the same session. If the National Assembly, in another session, considers the same bill by a majority vote of its members, the
Emir sanctions and promulgates the bill as law within thirty days from its submission to him.

Article 67
The Emir is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. He appoints and dismisses officers in accordance with the law.

Article 68
The Emir declares defensive war by decree. Offensive war is prohibited.

Article 69
(1) The Emir proclaims Martial Law in the cases of necessity determined by law and in accordance with the procedure specified therein. The proclamation of Martial Law shall be by decree. Such decree is referred to the National Assembly within the fifteen days following its issue, for a decision on the future of Martial Law. If the proclamation takes place during the period the National Assembly is dissolved, it is to be referred to the new Assembly at its first sitting.

(2) Martial Law may not continue unless a decision to that effect is made by a majority vote of the members constituting the Assembly.

(3) In all cases, the matter is referred to the National Assembly in accordance with the foregoing procedure, every three months.

Article 70
(1) The Emir concludes treaties by decree and transmits them immediately to the National Assembly with the appropriate statement. A treaty has the force of law after it is signed, ratified, and published in the Official Gazette.

(2) However, treaties of peace and alliance; treaties concerning the territory of the State, its natural resources or sovereign rights, or public or private rights of citizens; treaties of commerce, navigation, and residence; and treaties entailing additional expenditure not provided for in the budget, or involving amendment of the laws of Kuwait; shall come into force only when made by a law.

(3) In no case may treaties include secret provisions contradicting those declared.
Article 71
(1) Should necessity arise for urgent measures to be taken while the National Assembly is not in session or is dissolved, the Emir may issue decrees in respect thereof which have the force of law, provided that they are not contrary to the Constitution or to the appropriations included in the budget law.
(2) Such decrees are referred to the National Assembly within the fifteen days following their issue if the Assembly is in session. If it is dissolved or its legislative term has expired, such decrees are referred to the next Assembly at its first sitting. If they are not thus referred, they retrospectively cease to have the force of law, without the necessity of any decision to that effect. If they are referred and the Assembly does not confirm them, they retrospectively cease to have the force of law, unless the Assembly approves their validity for the preceding period or settles in some other way the effects arising there from.

Article 72
The Emir issues, by decree, the regulations necessary for the execution of laws without amending or suspending such laws or making any exemption from their execution. A law may prescribe a less formal instrument than a decree for the issue of the regulations necessary for its execution.

Article 73
The Emir issues, by decree, regulations for public order and health, and regulations necessary for the organization of public services and administration, not conflicting with any law.

Article 74
(1) The Emir appoints and dismisses civil and military officials and diplomatic representatives to foreign countries in accordance with the law.
(2) He also accepts credentials of the representatives of foreign countries.

Article 75
(1) The Emir may, by decree, grant a pardon or commute a sentence.
(2) However, general amnesty shall not be granted except by a law and then only in respect of offences committed prior to the proposal of the amnesty.
Article 76
The Emir confers Orders of Honor in accordance with the law.

Article 77
Coins are minted in the name of the Emir in accordance with the law.

Article 78
Upon the accession of the Head of State, his annual emoluments are fixed by a law for the duration of his reign.

Chapter III
The National Assembly

Article 79
No law may be promulgated unless it has been passed by the National Assembly and sanctioned by the Emir.

Article 80
(1) The National Assembly is composed of fifty members elected directly by universal suffrage and secret ballot in accordance with the provisions prescribed by the electoral law.
(2) Ministers who are not elected members of the National Assembly are considered ex-officio members thereof.

Article 81
Electoral constituencies are determined by law.

Article 82
A member of the National Assembly shall:
(a) be a Kuwaiti by origin in accordance with law;
(b) be qualified as an elector in accordance with the electoral law;
(c) be not less than thirty calendar years of age on the day of election;
(d) be able to read and write Arabic well.

Article 83
(1) The term of the National Assembly is four calendar years commencing with the day of its first sitting. Elections for the new Assembly take place within the sixty days preceding the expiry of the said term, due regard being given to the
provisions of Article 107.

(2) Members whose term of office expires may be re-elected.

(3) The term of the Assembly may not be extended except for necessity in time of war and by a law.

Article 84

(1) If, for any reason, a seat in the National Assembly becomes vacant before the end of the term, the vacancy is filled by election within two months from the date on which the Assembly declares the vacancy. The mandate of the new member lasts until the end of that of his predecessor.

(2) If the vacancy occurs within six months prior to the expiry of the legislative term of the Assembly, no successor is elected.

Article 85

The National Assembly has an annual session of not less than eight months. The said session may not be prorogued before the budget is approved.

Article 86

The Assembly starts its ordinary session during the month of October of every year upon convocation by the Emir. If the decree of convocation is not issued before the first of the said month, the time for the meeting is deemed to be 9 a.m. on the third Saturday of that month. If such day happens to be an official holiday, the Assembly meets on the morning of the first day thereafter.

Article 87

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding two Articles, the Emir summons the National Assembly to hold its first meeting within two weeks of the end of the general election. If the decree of convocation is not issued within the said period, the Assembly is deemed to have been convoked for the morning of the day following these two weeks, due regard being given to the relevant provision of the preceding Article.

(2) If the date of the meeting of the Assembly falls after the annual date mentioned in Article 86, the term of the session specified in Article 85 is reduced by the difference between the said two dates.
Article 88
(1) The National Assembly is called by decree to an extraordinary session if the Emir deems it necessary, or upon the demand of the majority of the members of the Assembly.
(2) In an extraordinary session, the Assembly may not consider matters other than those for which it has been convened except with the consent of the Cabinet.

Article 89
The Emir announces the prorogation of ordinary and extraordinary sessions.

Article 90
Every meeting held by the Assembly at a time or place other than that assigned for its meeting is invalid, and resolutions passed thereat are void by virtue of law.

Article 91
Before assuming his duties in the Assembly or in its committees, a member of the National Assembly must take the following oath before the Assembly in a public sitting:

"I swear by Almighty God to be faithful to the Country and to the Emir, to respect the Constitution and the laws of the State, to defend the liberties, interests, and properties of the people, and to discharge my duties honestly and truthfully."

Article 92
(1) The National Assembly elects at its first sitting and for the duration of its term a President and a Deputy President from amongst its members. If either office becomes vacant, the Assembly elects a successor for the remainder of its term.
(2) In all cases, election is by an absolute majority vote of the members present. If this majority vote is not attained in the first ballot, another election is held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. If more than one candidate receives an equal number of votes in the second place, all such candidates shall participate in the second ballot. In this case, the candidate who
receives the greatest number of votes is elected. If there is a tie in this last ballot, the choice is by lot.

(3) The oldest member presides over the first sitting until the President is elected.

Article 93
The Assembly forms, within the first week of its annual session, the committees necessary for its functions. These committees may discharge their duties during the recess of the Assembly with a view to submitting their recommendations to it when it meets.

Article 94
Sittings of the National Assembly are public, though they may be held in secret upon the request of the Government, the President of the Assembly, or of ten of its members. The debate on such request is held in secret.

Article 95
The National Assembly decides upon the validity of the election of its members. No election may be declared invalid except by a majority vote of the members constituting the Assembly. This jurisdiction may, by law, be entrusted to a judicial body.

Article 96
The National Assembly is the competent authority to accept resignation of its members.

Article 97
For a meeting of the National Assembly to be valid, more than half of its members must be present. Resolutions are passed by an absolute majority vote of the members present, except in cases where a special majority is required. When votes are equally divided, the motion is rejected.

Article 98
Immediately upon its formation, every Cabinet presents its program to the National Assembly. The Assembly may make comments with regard to such a program.
Article 99
Every member of the National Assembly may put to the Prime Minister and to Ministers questions with a view to clarifying matters falling within their competence. The questioner alone has the right to comment once upon the answer.

Article 100
(1) Every member of the National Assembly may address to the Prime Minister and to Ministers interpellations with regard to matters falling within their competence.
(2) The debate on such an interpellation shall not take place until at least eight days have elapsed after its presentation, except in case of urgency and with the consent of the Minister concerned.
(3) Subject to the provisions of Articles 101 and 102, an interpellation may lead to the question of no confidence being put to the Assembly.

Article 101
(1) Every Minister is responsible to the National Assembly for the affairs of his ministry. If the Assembly passes a vote of no confidence against a Minister, he is considered to have resigned his office as from the date of the vote of no confidence and shall immediately submit his formal resignation. The question of confidence in a Minister may not be raised except upon his request or upon a demand signed by ten members, following a debate on an interpellation addressed to him. The Assembly may not make its decision upon such a request before the lapse of seven days from the presentation thereof.
(2) Withdrawal of confidence from a Minister is by a majority vote of the members constituting the Assembly excluding Ministers. Ministers do not participate in the vote of confidence.

Article 102
(1) The Prime Minister does not hold any portfolio; nor shall the question of confidence in him be raised before the National Assembly.
(2) Nevertheless, if the National Assembly decides, in the manner specified in the preceding Article, that it cannot co-operate with the Prime Minister, the
matter is submitted to the Head of State. In such a case, the Emir may either relieve the Prime Minister of office and appoint a new Cabinet or dissolve the National Assembly.

(3) In the event of dissolution, if the new Assembly decides by the abovementioned majority vote that it cannot co-operate with the said Prime Minister, he shall be considered to have resigned as from the date of the decision of the Assembly in this respect, and a new Cabinet shall be formed.

Article 103
If, for any reason, the Prime Minister or a Minister vacates his office, he shall continue to discharge the urgent business thereof until his successor is appointed.

Article 104
(1) The Emir opens the annual session of the National Assembly whereupon he delivers an Emiri Speech reviewing the situation of the country and the important public matters which happened during the preceding year, and outlining the projects and reforms the Government plans to undertake during the coming year.

(2) The Emir may depute the Prime Minister to open the Assembly or to deliver the Emiri Speech.

Article 105
The National Assembly chooses, from amongst its members, a committee to draft the reply to the Emiri Speech which will embody the comments and wishes of the Assembly. After the said reply has been approved by the Assembly, it is submitted to the Emir.

Article 106
The Emir may, by a decree, adjourn the meeting of the National Assembly for a period not exceeding one month. Adjournment may be repeated during the same session with the consent of the Assembly and then only once. A period of adjournment is not counted in computing the duration of the session.

Article 107
(1) The Emir may dissolve the National Assembly by a decree in which the
reason for dissolution is indicated. However, dissolution of the Assembly may not be repeated for the same reasons.

(2) In the event of dissolution, elections for the new Assembly are held within a period not exceeding two months from the date of dissolution.

(3) If the elections are not held within the said period, the dissolved Assembly is restored to its full constitutional authority and meets immediately as if the dissolution had not taken place. The Assembly then continues to function until the new Assembly is elected.

**Article 108**

A member of the Assembly represents the whole nation. He safeguards the public interest and is not subject to any authority in the discharge of his duties in the Assembly or in its committees.

**Article 109**

(1) A member of the Assembly has the right to initiate bills.

(2) No bill initiated by a member and rejected by the National Assembly may be re-introduced during the same session.

**Article 110**

A member of the National Assembly is free to express any views or opinions in the Assembly or in its committees. Under no circumstances can he be held liable in respect thereof.

**Article 111**

Except in cases of *flagrante delicto*, no measures of inquiry, search, arrest, detention, or any other penal measure may be taken against a member while the Assembly is in session, except with the authorization of the Assembly. The Assembly must be notified of any penal measure that may be taken during its session in accordance with the foregoing provision. The Assembly, at its first meeting, is always notified of any such measure taken against any of its members while it was not sitting. In all cases, if the Assembly does not give a decision regarding a request for authorization within one month from the date of its receipt, permission is deemed to have been given.
Article 112
Upon a request signed by five members, any subject of general interest may be put to the National Assembly for discussion with a view to securing clarification of the Government's policy and to exchanging views thereof. All other members also have the right to participate in the discussion.

Article 113
The National Assembly may express to the Government wishes regarding public matters. If the Government cannot comply with these wishes, it shall state to the Assembly the reasons therefore. The Assembly may comment once on the Government's statement.

Article 114
The National Assembly at all times has the right to set up committees of inquiry or to delegate one or more of its members to investigate any matter within its competence. Ministers and all Government officials must produce testimonials, documents, and statements requested from them.

Article 115
(1) The Assembly sets up, among its annual standing committees, a special committee to deal with petitions and complaints submitted to the Assembly by citizens. The committee seeks explanation thereon from the competent authorities and informs the person concerned of the result.
(2) A member of the National Assembly may not interfere with the work of either the Judicial or the Executive Power.

Article 116
The Prime Minister and Ministers are given the floor whenever they ask for it. They may call for assistance upon any senior officials or depute them to speak on their behalf. The Assembly may ask for a Minister to be present whenever a matter relating to his ministry is under discussion. The Cabinet must be represented in the sittings of the Assembly by the Prime Minister or by some Ministers.

Article 117
The National Assembly determines its standing orders, which include the
procedure of the Assembly and its committees and the rules pertaining to discussion, voting, questions, interpellation, and all other functions prescribed in the Constitution. The standing orders prescribe the sanctions to be imposed on any member who violates order or absents himself from the meetings of the Assembly or the committees without a legitimate excuse.

**Article 118**

(1) Maintaining order in the National Assembly is the responsibility of its President. The Assembly has a special guard under the authority of the President of the Assembly.

(2) No armed forces may enter the Assembly or be stationed close to its gates unless so requested by the President.

**Article 119**

The remuneration of the President of the National Assembly, the Deputy President, and the Members are fixed by law. In the event of a modification of the said remuneration, such modification may not take effect until the next legislative term.

**Article 120**

(1) Membership of the National Assembly is incompatible with public office except in the cases where compatibility is permitted in accordance with the Constitution. In such cases, the right to the remuneration for membership and the right to the salary of the public office may not be cumulated.

(2) The law specifies other cases of incompatibility.

**Article 121**

(1) During his mandate, a member of the National Assembly may not be appointed on the board of directors of a company, nor may he participate in concessions granted by the Government or by public bodies.

(2) Further, during the said mandate, he may not buy or rent any property of the State, nor let, sell, or barter any of his property to the Government, except by public auction or tender, or in compliance with the system of compulsory acquisition.
Article 122
During their mandate, members of the National Assembly with the exception of those occupying a public office not incompatible with the membership of the National Assembly, may not be awarded decorations.

Chapter IV
The Executive Power
Section I
The Cabinet

Article 123
The Council of Ministers has control over the departments of the State. It formulates the general policy of the Government, pursues its execution, and supervises the conduct of work in Government departments.

Article 124
(1) A law determines the remuneration of the Prime Minister and the Ministers.
(2) All other provisions regarding Ministers apply to the Prime Minister unless otherwise stated.

Article 125
A Minister has to satisfy the qualifications laid down in Article 82.

Article 126
Before assuming office, the Prime Minister and Ministers, before the Emir, take the Oath specified in Article 91.

Article 127
The Prime Minister presides over the meetings of the Council of Ministers and supervises the co-ordination of work among the various ministries.

Article 128
(1) Deliberations of the Council of Ministers are secret. Resolutions are passed only when the majority of its members are present and with the approval of the majority of those present. In case of an equal division of votes, that side prevails on which the Prime Minister has voted.
(2) Unless they resign, the minority has to abide by the opinion of the majority.
(3) Resolutions of the Council of Ministers are submitted to the Emir for approval in cases where the issue of a decree is required.

Article 129
The resignation of the Prime Minister or his removal from office involve the resignation or removal of all other Ministers.

Article 130
Every Minister supervises the affairs of his ministry and executes therein the general policy of the Government. He also formulates directives for the ministry and supervises their execution.

Article 131
(1) While in office, a Minister may not hold any other public office or practice, even indirectly, any profession, or undertake any industrial, commercial, or financial business. Furthermore, he may not participate in any concession granted by the Government or by public bodies or cumulate the ministerial post with membership of the board of directors of any company.

(2) In addition, during the said period, a Minister may not buy or otherwise acquire any property of the State even by public auction, nor may he let, sell, or switch any of his property to the Government.

Article 132
A special law defines the offences which may be committed by Ministers in the performance of their duties, and specifies the procedure for their indictment and trial and the competent authority, for the said trial, without affecting the application of other laws to their ordinary acts or offences and to the civil liability arising there from.

Article 133
The law regulates general and municipal self-governing bodies in such a way as to ensure their independence under the direction and supervision of the Government.
Section II
Financial Affairs

Article 134
No general tax may be established, amended, or abolished except by a law. No one may be exempted, wholly or partially, from the duty to pay such taxes except in the cases specified by law. No one may be required to pay any other tax, fee, or imposition except within the limits of law.

Article 135
The law prescribes rules for the collection of public funds and the procedure for their expenditure.

Article 136
Public loans are concluded by a law. The Government may grant or guarantee a loan by a law, or within the limits of the funds appropriated for the said purpose in the budget.

Article 137
General and local self-governing bodies may grant or guarantee loans according to law.

Article 138
The law lays down the rules for the protection of State properties, their administration, the conditions of their disposal, and the limits within which any of these properties may be relinquished.

Article 139
The financial year is fixed by law.

Article 140
The Government draws up the annual budget, comprising the revenue and expenditure of the State, and submits it to the National Assembly for examination and approval at least two months before the end of each current financial year.

Article 141
(1) The budget shall be discussed in the National Assembly part by part.
(2) None of the public revenues may be allocated for a specific purpose except by law.

Article 142
Specific funds may be appropriated by law for more than one year if the nature of the expenditure so requires, provided that each budget shall include the funds allocated for that year, or alternatively, an extraordinary budget covering more than one financial year shall be drawn up.

Article 143
The budget law may not include any provisions establishing a new tax, increasing an existing tax, amending an existing law, or evading the issue of a special law on a matter in respect of which the Constitution provides that a law should be issued.

Article 144
The budget shall be issued by a law.

Article 145
(1) If the budget law has not been promulgated before the beginning of the financial year, the preceding budget applies until the new one is issued and revenues are collected and disbursements made in accordance with laws in force at the end of the preceding year.
(2) However, if the National Assembly has approved one or more parts of the new budget, they are put into effect.

Article 146
Any expenditure not included in the budget, or in excess of the budget appropriations, as well as the transfer of any fund from one part of the budget to another, must be effected by law.

Article 147
In no case may the maximum estimate of expenditure, included in the budget law or the laws amending it, be exceeded.

Article 148
The general budgets, both independent and annexed, must be specified by law to which the provisions regarding the budget of the State apply.
Article 149
The final accounts of the financial administration of the State for the preceding year are submitted, within four months following the end of the said year, to the National Assembly for consideration and approval.

Article 150
The government submits to the National Assembly, at least once during each ordinary session, a statement upon the financial position of the State.

Article 151
A financial control and audit commission is established by a law, which ensures its independence. The commission is attached to the National Assembly and assists the government and the National Assembly in controlling the collection of the State revenues and the disbursement of its expenditures within the limits of the budget. The commission submits to both the Government and the National Assembly an annual report on its activities and its observations.

Article 152
No concession for exploitation of either a natural resource or a public service may be granted except by a law and for a limited period. In this respect, the preparatory measures facilitate the operations of prospecting and exploration and ensure publicity and competition.

Article 153
No monopoly may be granted except by a law and for a limited period.

Article 154
Currency and banking as well as standards, weights, and measures are regulated by law.

Article 155
Law regulates salaries, pensions, compensation, subsidies, and gratuities, which are a charge on the State treasury.

Article 156
Provisions relating to the budgets and the final accounts of local bodies and authorities which have a public legal personality are determined by law.
Section III
Military Affairs

Article 157
Peace is the aim of the State, and the safeguard of the integrity of the Country, which is part of the integrity of the Greater Arab World, is a trust devolving upon every citizen.

Article 158
Military service is regulated by law.

Article 159
The State alone may establish armed forces and public security bodies and that in accordance with law.

Article 160
Mobilization, general or partial, are regulated by law.

Article 161
A Supreme Defense Council is set up to conduct affairs relating to defense, to the safeguard of the integrity of the Country, and to the supervision of the armed forces, in accordance with law.

Chapter V
The Judicial Power

Article 162
The honor of the Judiciary and the integrity and impartiality of judges are the bases of rule and a guarantee of rights and liberties.

Article 163
In administering justice, judges are not subject to any authority. No interference whatsoever is allowed with the conduct of justice. Law guarantees the independence of the Judiciary and states the guarantees and provisions relating to judges and the conditions of their irrevocability.

Article 164
Law regulates the Courts of various kinds and degrees and specifies their functions and jurisdiction. Except when Martial Law is in force, Military
Courts have jurisdiction only over military offences committed by members of the armed and security forces within the limits specified by law.

**Article 165**

Sittings of the Courts are to be public, except for the cases prescribed otherwise by law.

**Article 166**

The right of recourse to the Courts is guaranteed to all people. Law prescribes the procedure and manner necessary for the exercise of this right.

**Article 167**

(1) The Public Prosecution Office conducts penal charges on behalf of society. It supervises the affairs of judicial police, the enforcement of penal laws, the pursuit of offenders, and the execution of judgments. Law regulates this body, lays down its duties, and defines the conditions and guarantees for those who assume its functions.

(2) As an exception, law may entrust to the public security authorities the conduct of prosecutions in misdemeanors in accordance with the manner prescribed by law.

**Article 168**

The Judiciary has a Supreme Council which is regulated, and its duties defined, by law.

**Article 169**

The law regulates the settlement of administrative suits by means of a special Chamber or Court, and prescribes its organization and the manner of assuming administrative jurisdiction including the power of both nullification and compensation in respect of administrative acts contrary to law.

**Article 170**

The law organizes the body which renders legal advice to ministries and public departments and drafts bills and regulations. Law also regulates the representation of the State and other public bodies before the Courts.

**Article 171**

A Council of State may be established by a law to assume the functions of
administrative jurisdiction, rendering legal advice, and drafting bills and regulations, mentioned in the preceding two Articles.

**Article 172**
The methods of resolving conflicts of jurisdiction or of judgments between the various kinds of Courts are prescribed by law.

**Article 173**
(1) The law specifies the judicial body competent to deciding disputes relating to the constitutionality of laws and regulations and determines its jurisdiction and procedure.

(2) The law ensures the right of both the Government and the interested parties to challenge the constitutionality of laws and regulations before the said body.

(3) If the said body decides that a law or a regulation is unconstitutional, it is considered null and void.

**Part V**
**General and Transitional Provisions**

**Article 174**
(1) The Emir or one-third of the members of the National Assembly have the right to propose a revision of the Constitution by amending or deleting one or more of its provisions or by adding new provisions.

(2) If the Emir and the majority of the members constituting the National Assembly approve the principle of revision and its subject matter, the Assembly debates the bill article by article. Approval by a two-thirds majority vote of the members constituting the Assembly is required for the bill to be passed. The revision comes into force only after being sanctioned and promulgated by the Emir regardless of the provisions of Articles 65 and 66.

(3) If the principle of revision or its subject matter is rejected, it may not be presented again before the lapse of one year from the rejection.

(4) No amendment to this Constitution may be proposed before the lapse of five years from its coming into force.
Article 175
The provisions relating to the Emiri System in Kuwait and the principles of liberty and equality, provided for in this Constitution, may not be proposed for revision except in relation to the title of the Emirate or to increase the guarantees of liberty and equality.

Article 176
The powers of the Emir, specified in this Constitution, may not be proposed for revision when a Deputy Emir is acting for him.

Article 177
The application of this Constitution does not affect treaties and conventions previously concluded by Kuwait with other States and international organizations.

Article 178
Laws are published in the Official Gazette within two weeks of their promulgation and come into force one month after their publication. The latter period may be extended or reduced for any law by a special provision included in it.

Article 179
The laws are applicable to that which takes place after the date of their coming into force, and thus have no effect in respect of what has taken place before such date. However, in other than penal matters, a law may, with the approval of a majority vote of the members constituting the National Assembly, prescribe otherwise.

Article 180
All provisions of laws, regulations, decrees, orders, and decisions, in effect upon the coming into force of this Constitution, continue to be applicable unless amended or repealed in accordance with the procedure prescribed in this Constitution, provided that they are not contrary to any of its provisions.

Article 181
No provision of this Constitution may be suspended except when Martial Law is in force and within the limits specified by the law. Under no circumstances
may the meetings of the National Assembly be suspended, nor shall the immunities of its members be interfered with during such period.

**Article 182**

This Constitution shall be published in the Official Gazette and comes into force on the date of the meeting of the National Assembly, which shall not be later than January 1963.

**Article 183**

Law Number I of 1962 concerning the system of Government during the period of transition continues to be in force, and the present members of the Constituent Assembly continue in the exercise of their duties specified in the said law, until the meeting of the National Assembly.